[Mr. M. R. Madhava Variar.]

Change of Policy of the Police towards the Satyagrahis at Vaikam.

62. MR. K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla*): (*a*) Are the Government aware that some Policemen have been taking by force the *charkas* used by the *Satyagrahis* and destroying them?

(*b*) Is it true that, since Mr. Pitt, the Police Commissioner, went on leave, the attitude of the Police towards the *Satyagrahis* has visibly changed?

MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): (*a*) The member is referred to the answer to question No. 56. Government have no information that any *charkas* have been destroyed.

(*b*) The answer is in the negative.

Reasons for preventing non-caste Hindus from using Roads round Vaikam Temple.

63. MR. K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state the reasons which induced them to take steps to prevent non-caste Hindus from using the roads round the Vaikam temple?

(*b*) Is it because the Government recognise untouchability and unapproachability that they have taken this action?

MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): (*a*) and (*b*) The existence of a long-standing custom which prevents the non-caste Hindus from using the roads in question and the duty of the Government to maintain the *status quo*, especially when the proposal to depart from the long-standing custom is opposed to the religious feelings and usages of a section of His Highness the Maha Raja's subjects and is likely to irritate it.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—(*contd.*)

DEMAND IV—FOREST.

PRESIDENT: We will now proceed with the discussion of demands for grants.

MR. R. DHANUKOTI PILLAI (*Conservator of Forests*): Sir, I rise to move for a grant of Rs. 7·67 lakhs under Demand IV—Forest.

Motion 101.

MR. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR (*Chengannur cum Pattanamtitta*): Sir, I rise to move the following:—

101. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,21,000 for removal of royal trees from forests by Government agency by Rs. 21,000.

The sum, for the reduction of which I make the motion, represents the difference between the budget estimate of 1099 and that of 1100,

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